

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 13305 01 OF 02 232321Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 EA-06 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10

NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 13305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR OECD MINISTERIAL: DECLARATION
ON RELATIONS WITH LDCS

REFS: A) USOECD 12685; B) USOECD 12958; C) USOECD 13120;
D) USOECD 13140

1. SUMMARY. THERE FOLLOWS A REVISED DRAFT DECLARATION
OF RELATIONS WITH LDCS WHICH EMERGED FROM HEADS OF DEL
MEETING ON MAY 23. THIS TEXT ACHIEVED GENERAL CONSENSUS
IN PRINCIPLE OF HEADS OF DEL, WHO AGREED THAT IT SHOULD
BE FORWARDED FOR DECISION BY MINISTERS AT MAY 28
SESSION, HOPEFULLY WITH BRACKETS REMOVED BEFOREHAND.
THIS TEXT WILL NEXT BE DISCUSSED AT HEADS OF DEL MEETING
MAY 26, WHICH HAS BEEN CALLED PRIMARILY AS SAFETY VALVE
IN CASE THERE ARE MAJOR PROBLEMS ON THIS OR OTHER ISSUES
RELATED TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE BELIEVE THAT
THIS TEXT AVOIDS EXCESSIVE CATERING TO DEMANDS OF LDCS
AS ADVOCATED BY UK, LEAVES OPEN QUESTION OF FORUMS AND
AGENDA FOR FUTURE DIALOGUE WITH LDCS, AND THUS REPRESENTS
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PAGE 02 OECD P 13305 01 OF 02 232321Z

SENTS BEST COMPROMISE AMONG DISPARATE OECD MEMBER VIEWS

WHICH HEADS OF DEL ARE LIKELY TO ACHIEVE. QUESTION OF WHETHER TEXT WILL BE ISSUED AS SEPARATE DECLARATION OR AS PART OF COMMUNIQUE REMAINS UNDECIDED. ENDUMMARY.

2.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. MINISTERS OF OECD GOVERNMENTS MEETING IN PARIS ON 28TH MAY, 1975, DISCUSSED RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND AGREED THAT, IN THE PRESENT SITUATION, THE WIDEST MEASURE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IS REQUIRED.

2. THEY CONSIDERED THAT WHILE MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE MADE MAJOR PROGRESS IN THEIR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM HAVE NOT BEEN IN A POSITION TO ADVANCE SUFFICIENTLY AND MANY ARE STILL FACED WITH EXTREMELY SEVERE PROBLEMS OF POVERTY.

3. RECALLING THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH THEIR COUNTRIES HAVE MADE TO FURTHER THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MINISTERS RESOLVED TO INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS TO COOPERATE WITH THESE COUNTRIES IN THEIR ENDEAVORS TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF THEIR PEOPLE AND TO (GAIN AN INCREASING SHARE OF) (PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN) THE BENEFITS OF AN IMPROVED AND EXPANDING WORLD ECONOMY.

5. THEY DETERMINED TO CONSIDER POLICIES AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE POSITION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY AND EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE RELEVANT ISSUES WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

6. THEY THEREFORE EXPRESSED THEIR FIRM DETERMINATION TO PURSUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, (IN APPROPRIATE FORA) (IN THE UNITED NATIONS, TAKING ADVANTAGE IN PARTICULAR OF THE FORTHCOMING 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AT THE CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND ELSEWHERE,) IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THOSE AREAS WHERE REAL PROGRESS COULD BE MADE TOWARDS A MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OECD P 13305 01 OF 02 232321Z

BALANCED AND EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL ORDER. END TEXT.

3. MISSION COMMENTS: ABOVE DRAFT DECLARATION EMERGED FROM FULL DAY'S DISCUSSION BY HEADS OF DEL BASED ON SECOND REVISION CIRCULATED LAST NIGHT (USOECD 13140). THERE WAS NO SUPPORT FOR RETENTION OF ENUMERATION OF SPECIFIC AREAS CONTAINED IN FIRST SET OF BRACKETS IN

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PAGE 01 OECD P 13305 02 OF 02 232326Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 OECD PARIS 13305

PARA 5. UK AND GERMANY HAD FIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO OPPOSE SUCH LANGUAGE ON GROUNDS THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO BE SPECIFIC WOULD EITHER A) AROUSE FALSE EXPECTATIONS ON PART OF LDCS OR B) CREATE ADVERSE REACTION THROUGH ITS OMISSIONS. WE BELIEVE WE HAVE GONE AS FAR AS WE CAN ON THAT POINT BY GAINING UK AGREEMENT TO WITHDRAW SECOND BRACKETED PASSAGE IN PARA 5 WHICH WOULD HAVE IMPLIED A WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS ALL ISSUES PUT FORWARD BY G-77. IN SIMILAR VEIN, AMB. TURNER ARGUED SUCCESSFULLY THAT 2ND HALF OF PARA 5 OF NEW TEXT SHOULD READ "THE" RATHER THAN "ALL RELEVANT ISSUES".

4. THE BRACKETED LANGUAGE "GAIN AN INCREASING SHARE OF" IN PARA 3 OF THE NEW DRAFT WAS SUPPORTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS EXCEPT JAPANESE AND US. THE CONCERN OF THE LATTER DELS THAT SUCH LANGUAGE WOULD IMPLY REDISTRIBUTION OF INCOME WAS COUNTERED BY ARGUMENTS FROM FRENCH AND OTHERS THAT LINKAGE OF THAT PHRASE TO "AN IMPROVED AND EXPANDING WORLD ECONOMY" ELIMINATED ALL IMPLICATION OF AN INCOME

REDISTRIBUTION. SEVERAL DELS CONSIDERED THE "GAIN AN
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PAGE 02 OECD P 13305 02 OF 02 232326Z

INCREASING SHARE OF" LANGUAGE TO BE A KEY PART OF THE
"SIGNAL" OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD CONVEY TO LDCS THROUGH

5. PHRASE "MORE RATIONAL AND EQUITABLE WORLD ORDER"
CONTAINED IN BRACKETS IN PREVIOUS TEXT WAS SUBJECT OF
CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION. MAIN OPPONENTS OF THAT WORDING
WERE AGAIN US, JAPAN AND GERMANY, WHILE SECRETARY GENERAL
FRENCH, SWEDISH AND MOST SMALLER DELEGATIONS
ARGUED THAT SUCH WORDING WOULD FORM AN IMPORTANT SIGNAL
OF OECD COUNTRIES' WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE
WITH LDCS. PHRASING OF NEW TEXT, I.E., "INTERNATIONAL
ORDER" WAS PROPOSED BY AMB. TURNER, WHO TOOK IT FROM
TEXT OF SECRETARY'S KANSAS CITY SPEECH.

6. BRACKETED LANGUAGE "IN APPROPRIATE FORA" IN PARA
6 OF NEW TEXT WAS PROPOSED BY AMB. TURNER WHO ARGUED
THAT WE SHOULD LEAVE HIGHLY POLITICAL QUESTION OF IN
WHICH FORA DC'S WISH TO PURSUE DIALOGUE WITH LDCS FOR
MINISTERS TO DECIDE. UK, SWEDISH AND OTHER DELS PUSHED
STRONGLY FOR SPECIFIC MENTION OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION,
UK REP AGAIN EMPHASIZING THAT ONE OF MAJOR PURPOSES OF
DECLARATION WOULD BE TO SET STAGE FOR 7TH SPECIAL
SESSION. FRENCH PERMREP IS UNDER FIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO
INSIST ON REFERENCE TO PREPCON, ALTHOUGH EXTENT OF HIS
SUPPORT AMONG OTHER DELEGATIONS IS UNCLEAR.

7. QUESTION OF WHETHER THE ABOVE TEXT SHOULD BE ISSUED
AS SEPARATE DECLARATION OR AS PART OF COMMUNIQUE RE-
MAINS VERY MUCH UP IN THE AIR. VAN LENNEP, UK AND
MOST OTHER DELS CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE SEPARATE COMMUNIQUE
AS BEST MEANS OF CONVEYING SIGNAL OF WILLINGNESS TO
COOPERATE TO LDCS. FRENCH APPEAR TO HAVE
OVERCOME INITIAL DOUBTS AS TO ADVISABILITY OF ISSUING
SEPARATE DECLARATION, PROVIDED IT INCLUDES THEIR
BRACKETED LANGUAGE IN PARA 6. AT CONCLUSION OF
TODAY'S SESSION, ON OTHER HAND, DUTCH, SWEDES AND
CANADIANS EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT TEXT AS DRAFTED
WAS SUFFICIENTLY CONCRETE AND FORTHCOMING FOR THEIR
MINISTERS TO AGREE TO IT AS SEPARATE DECLARATION.
CONSENSUS CONTINUES TO BE THAT THIS QUESTION
SHOULD BE LEFT FOR MINISTERS TO DECIDE. VAN LENNED
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PAGE 03 OECD P 13305 02 OF 02 232326Z

INDICATED AT END OF SESSION THAT CALLAGHAN WOULD WISH
TO SEE TEXT ON RELATIONS WITH LDCS RELEASED TO PRESS
FOLLOWING FIRST DAY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT WAS
ISSUED AS SEPARATE DECLARATION OR AS AN ADVANCE SECTION
OF COMMUNIQUE TO BE RELEASED THE FOLLOWING DAY.
TURNER

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